

Amendments to the Specification:

Paragraph 0040 of the specification is amended as follows:

[0040] The shutter 70 is in a normally open position when in use. This means that the shutter 70 is closed when the hopper 24 is removed from the open top assembly 30. As such, when the hopper 24 is positioned on the open top assembly 30 the shutter 70 is oriented with the aperture 80 aligned with the passage 82 to provide continuous downward flow path of beans from the hopper to the inlet 40 in the manner as taught in the prior art. This eliminates the need to associate electronic components with the hopper to operate the opening and closing of the hopper. This may result in a more reliable system since the control elements 44, 46, 42 are retained on the grinder assembly 22 as taught by the prior art. As such, when a hopper 24 is removed from the open top assembly 30, there can be no change or effect in the control elements. If the control elements were to be directly associated with the hoppers 24, damage to the hoppers would result in damage to the control assemblies.